

SPAWN



SPAWN

PAUL JENKINS
PLOT

TODD McFARLANE & PAUL JENKINS
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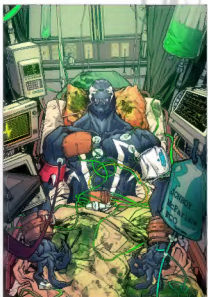
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SPAWN CREATED BY
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PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Al ushers his newly deceased father to the gateway between Heaven and Hell. While taking this journey together, Al and his father hash out events of the past that have put a wedge in their relationship.



THE R.M.S. TITANIC

APRIL 15TH, 1912.
FORTY-TWO MINUTES
PAST MIDNIGHT



TOMMY!
STAY
CLOSE! WE'RE
ALMOST
THERE.

SIR! YOU
NEED TO BE ON
THE UPPER DECK
WITH THE REST
OF THE THIRD
CLASS.

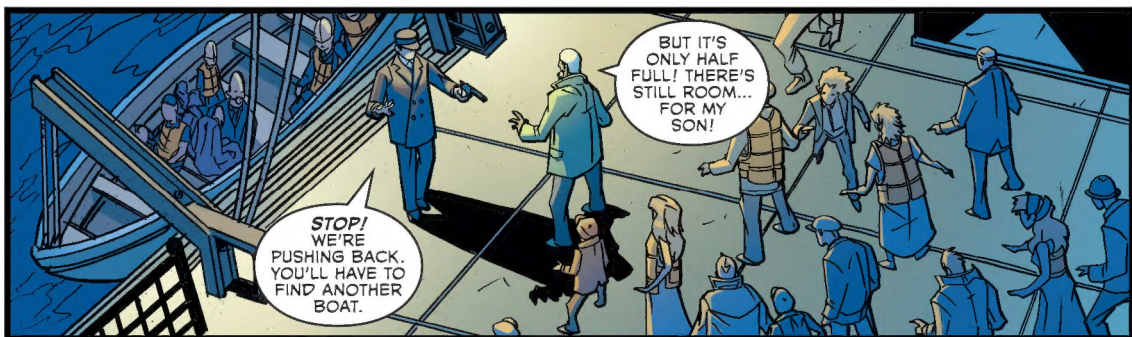
...CAPTAIN
SAID WE'VE
ONLY GOT TWO
HOURS LEFT
BEFORE THE ENTIRE
SHIP IS UNDER
WATER.



OVER
THERE, SON!
GET IN THAT
LIFEBOAT!

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

JUST
DO WHAT
I SAID!



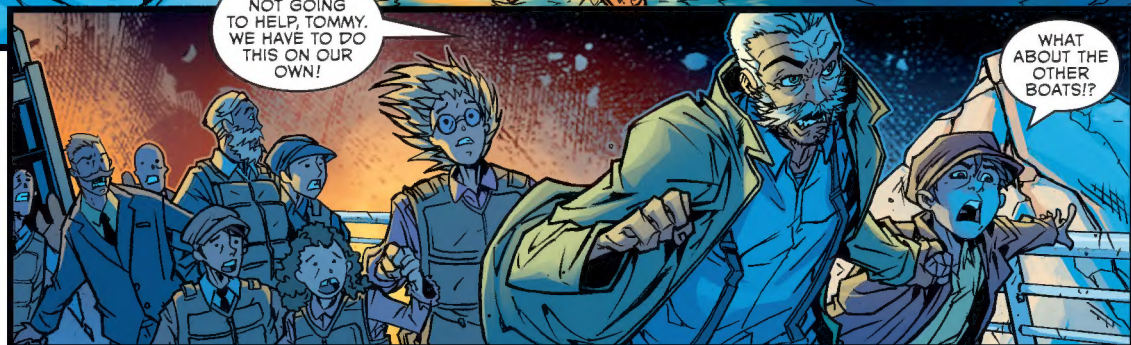
BUT IT'S
ONLY HALF
FULL! THERE'S
STILL ROOM...
FOR MY
SON!

STOP!
WE'RE
PUSHING BACK.
YOU'LL HAVE TO
FIND ANOTHER
BOAT.



I SAID
HE'S NOT
GETTING
ON.

GODAMMIT...
HE'S JUST A
CHILD!



THEY'RE NOT GOING TO HELP, TOMMY. WE HAVE TO DO THIS ON OUR OWN!

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER BOATS!?



THEY'RE ALL GONE. I COUNTED.

DAD! IN THE SKY-- IS IT A FLARE?

DOESN'T MATTER! JUST STAY WITH ME!



LISTEN TO ME, SON--YA NEED TO BE **BRAVE**. THINK OF MOM UP IN HEAVEN. SHE'LL ASK GOD 'I' LOOK OVER US, I PROMISE.

THE WATER'S GETTING CLOSER. WHAT DO WE DO?



THE ONLY THING LEFT. WE...





SHE DID IT!!
MOM... SHE
SENT US
HELP!



LOOK AT THEM... ALL OF THEM. MOVING AROUND LIKE NOTHING MATTERS. THEY ONLY CARE ABOUT THEIR OWN LIVES.

THAT'S WHY WE GET PREYED UPON. BECAUSE WE'RE EASY TARGETS TO ISOLATE-- THEN CONVERT.

HEAVEN AND HELL BOTH UNDERSTAND THAT. THAT'S WHY THEY'LL NEVER LEAVE US ALONE-- EITHER OF THEM. THEY KNOW WE'RE A BUNCH OF SUCKERS.



THAT WE HUMANS ARE GULLIBLE. BUT TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME.

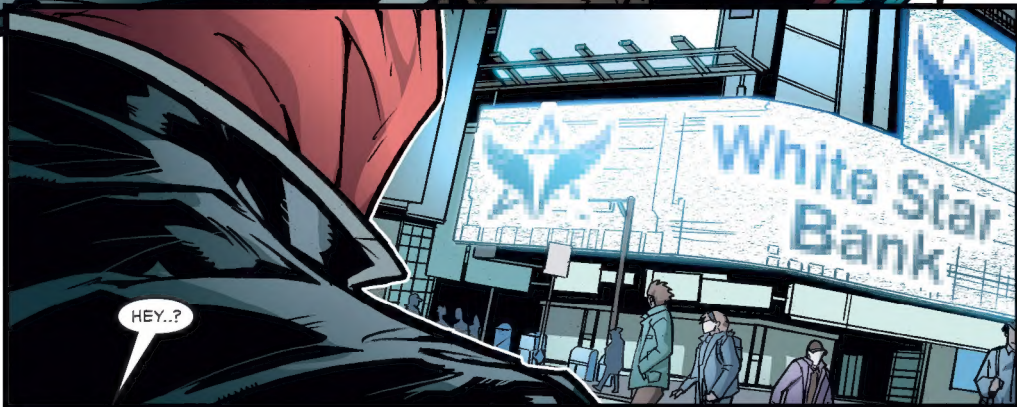
AND SOON I'LL SHOW THEM WHY I CAME BACK.*



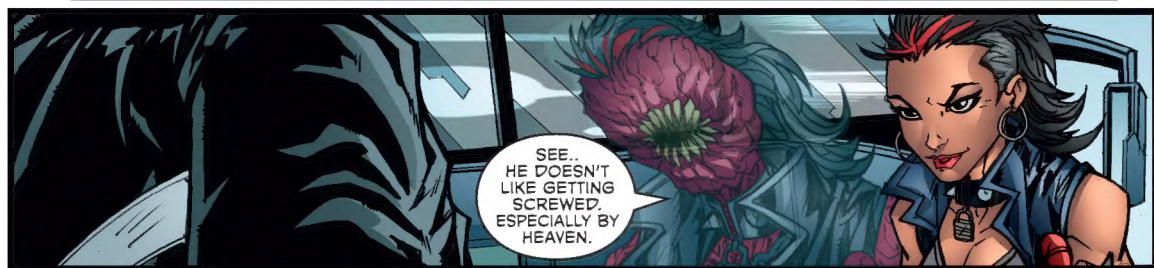
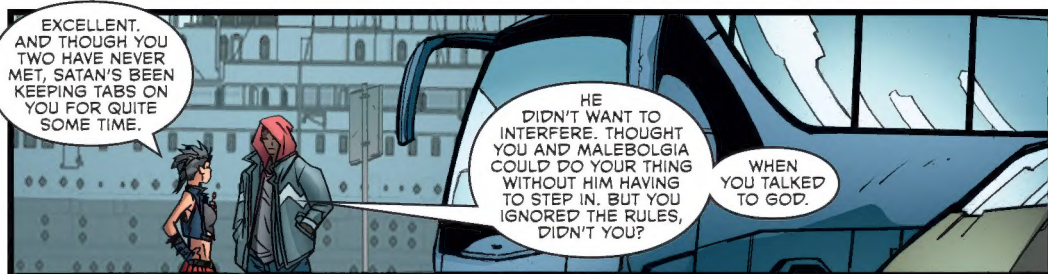
*SPAWN: Resurrection #1 - Todd

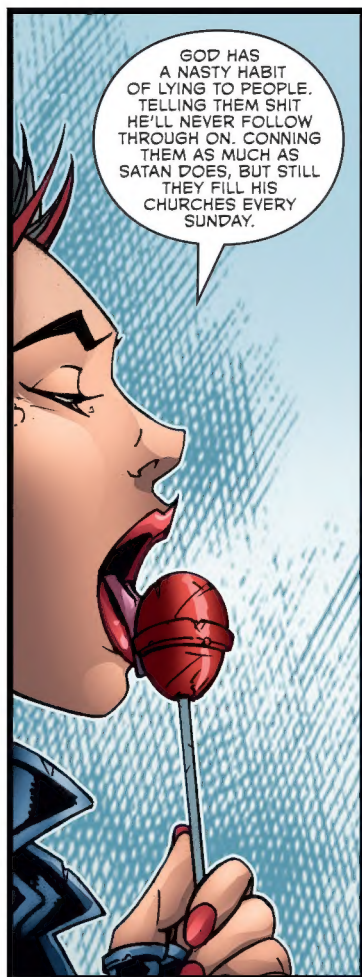


I JUST NEED TO BE A LITTLE MORE PATIENT.



HEY..?

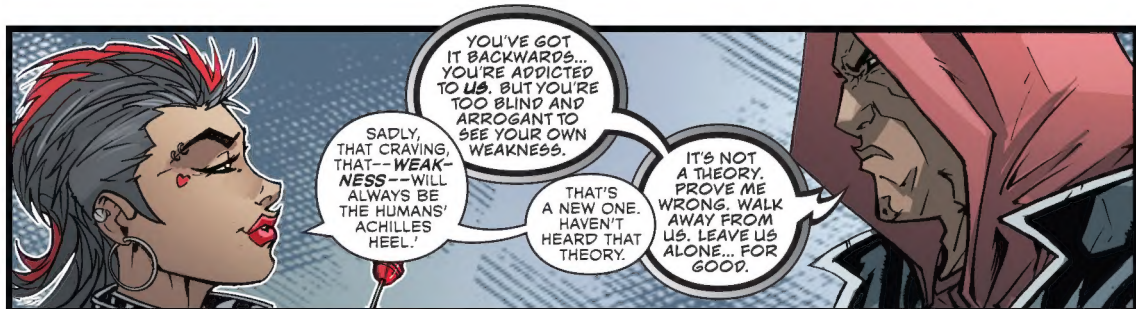




SATAN IS MORE TRUTHFUL ABOUT WHO HE IS. HE DOESN'T MAKE ANY PRETENSES ABOUT WHAT HE IS OR WHAT HE WANTS. AND WHAT HE WANTS IS **EXACTLY** THE SAME THINGS GOD DOES.

POWER. RESPECT. HUMAN OBEDIENCE. AND THE TOTAL ANNIHILATION OF HIS MORTAL ENEMY. GOD JUST CLOAKS THOSE WANTS IN THE GUISE OF HOPE AND VIRTUE.

KNOWING YOU HUMANS DESPERATELY NEED SOMETHING MORE THAN SIMPLY BEING ALIVE.



SADLY, THAT CRAVING, THAT--**WEAKNESS**--WILL ALWAYS BE THE HUMANS' ACHILLES' HEEL.'

YOU'VE GOT IT BACKWARDS... YOU'RE ADDICTED TO US, BUT YOU'RE TOO BLIND AND ARROGANT TO SEE YOUR OWN WEAKNESS.

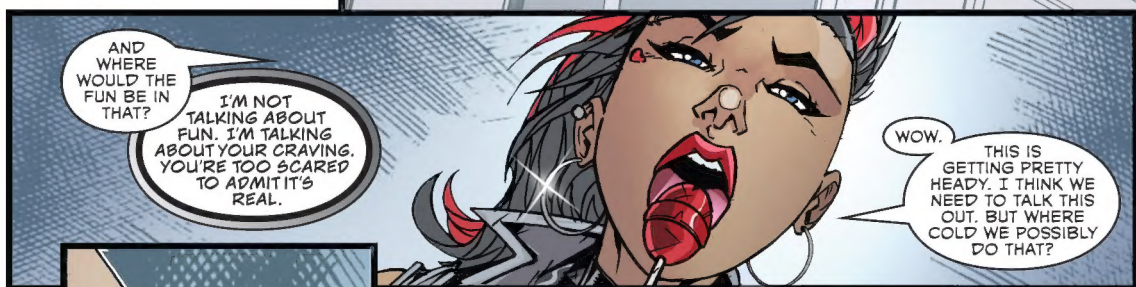
THAT'S A NEW ONE. HAVEN'T HEARD THAT THEORY.

IT'S NOT A THEORY. PROVE ME WRONG. WALK AWAY FROM US. LEAVE US ALONE... FOR GOOD.



JUST LIKE THAT?

JUST LIKE THAT.



AND WHERE WOULD THE FUN BE IN THAT?

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT FUN. I'M TALKING ABOUT YOUR CRAVING. YOU'RE TOO SCARED TO ADMIT IT'S REAL.

WOW.

THIS IS GETTING PRETTY HEADY. I THINK WE NEED TO TALK THIS OUT. BUT WHERE COLD WE POSSIBLY DO THAT?



I KNOW!

I BET YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TO THE TITANIC MUSEUM, HAVE YOU?

OH, C'MON. DON'T BE LIKE THAT. IT'LL BE EDUCATIONAL FOR BOTH OF US.

BESIDES, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO EVER GET YOUR DEAR WANDA BACK IF YOU WON'T PLAY ALONG? I'LL EVEN PAY.



TWO
TICKETS,
PLEASE.

YOU
COMING?

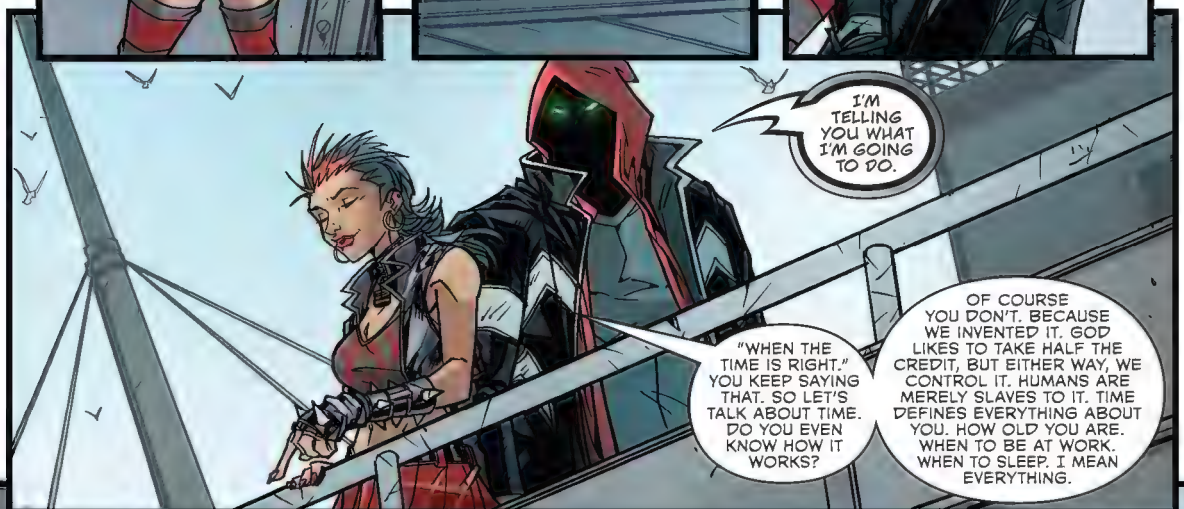


YOU'RE
WELCOME
TO START IF
YOU WANT.
ENLIGHTEN ME
AS TO WHY
WE SHOULD
LEAVE YOU
ALONE.

I SAID
YOU CAN'T.
AND NEITHER
CAN GOD. AS
LONG AS WE EXIST
YOU HAVE A
PURPOSE. WITH-
OUT US YOU'RE
NOTHING.

AND THERE'S
ONE THING I'VE LEARNED
ABOUT HEAVEN AND HELL.
YOUR EGOS WON'T ALLOW
YOU TO BE 'NOTHING.' AND
THAT'S WHY, WHEN THE TIME
IS RIGHT, I'LL DESTROY
BOTH OF YOU.

YOU
THREATENING
US?



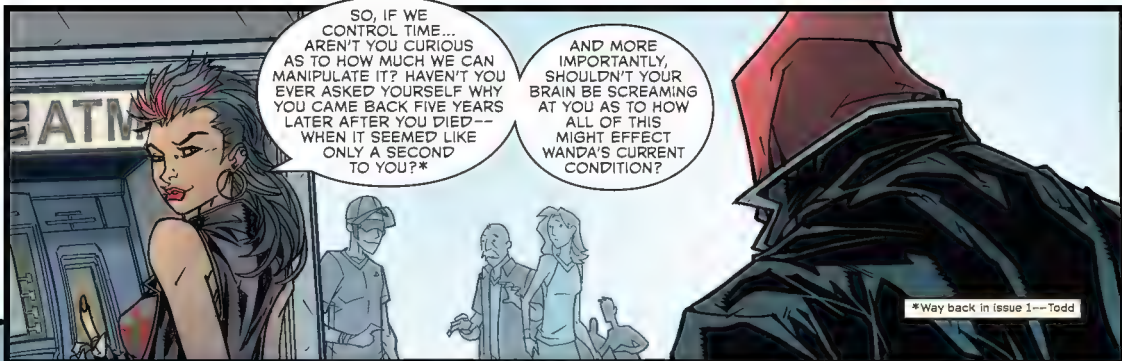
I'M
TELLING
YOU WHAT
I'M GOING
TO DO.

"WHEN THE
TIME IS RIGHT."
YOU KEEP SAYING
THAT. SO LET'S
TALK ABOUT TIME.
DO YOU EVEN
KNOW HOW IT
WORKS?

OF COURSE
YOU DON'T. BECAUSE
WE INVENTED IT. GOD
LIKES TO TAKE HALF THE
CREDIT, BUT EITHER WAY, WE
CONTROL IT. HUMANS ARE
MERELY SLAVES TO IT. TIME
DEFINES EVERYTHING ABOUT
YOU. HOW OLD YOU ARE.
WHEN TO BE AT WORK.
WHEN TO SLEEP. I MEAN
EVERYTHING.



EVEN WHEN
YOU THINK IT DOESN'T
MATTER, IT DOES. YOU
FALL IN LOVE BECAUSE
YOU KNOW EVENTUALLY
YOU'LL BE DEAD AND YOU
DON'T WANT TO WASTE
YOUR TIME ON EARTH
ALONE.



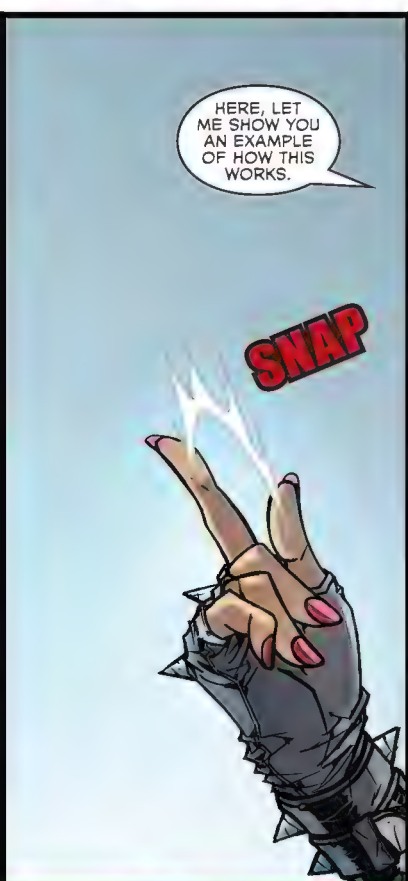
SO, IF WE CONTROL TIME... AREN'T YOU CURIOUS AS TO HOW MUCH WE CAN MANIPULATE IT? HAVEN'T YOU EVER ASKED YOURSELF WHY YOU CAME BACK FIVE YEARS LATER AFTER YOU DIED-- WHEN IT SEEMED LIKE ONLY A SECOND TO YOU?*

AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, SHOULDN'T YOUR BRAIN BE SCREAMING AT YOU AS TO HOW ALL OF THIS MIGHT EFFECT WANDA'S CURRENT CONDITION?

*Way back in issue 1--Todd



YOU SHOULD.



HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THIS WORKS.

SNAP



ON IT'S MAIDEN VOYAGE THE TITANIC SANK. BUT DID IT HAVE TO? COULD THAT TRAGEDY BE UNDONE? OR AT THE VERY LEAST, DID SOME OF THOSE WHO PERISHED SURVIVE? AND SHOULD SOME OF THOSE WHO SURVIVED... HAVE DIED?

IF YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT...

I'M NOT TELLING YOU ANYTHING. I'M SHOWING YOU OPTIONS.

"AND AN
ALTERNATE
POSSIBILITY."

DAD!
DO YOU SEE
ALL THEM WHITE-
CAPS? HOW BIG
DO YOU THINK
THEY CAN
GET?

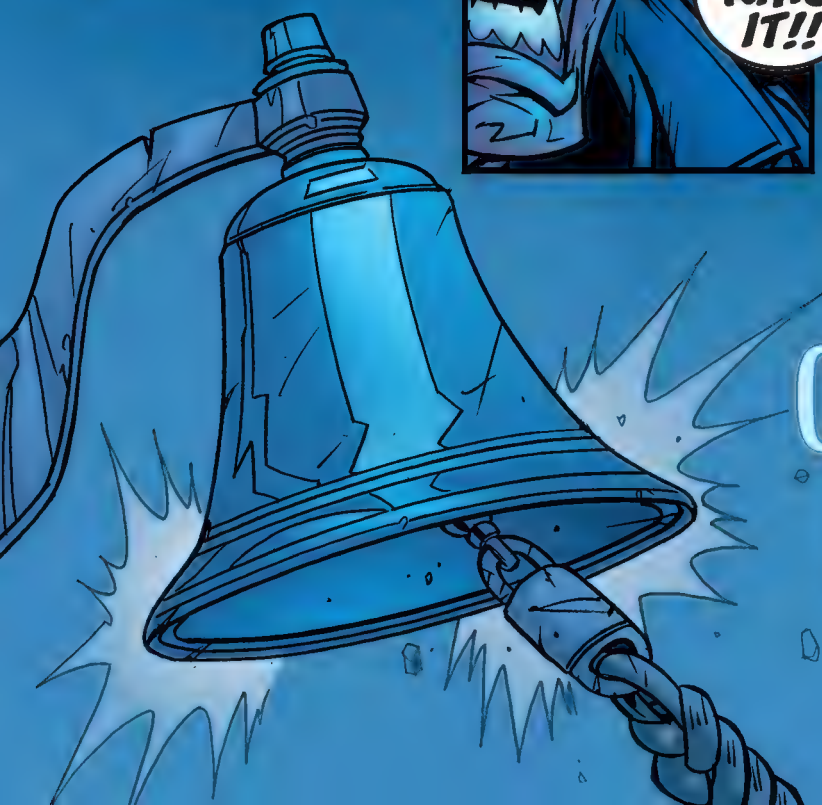
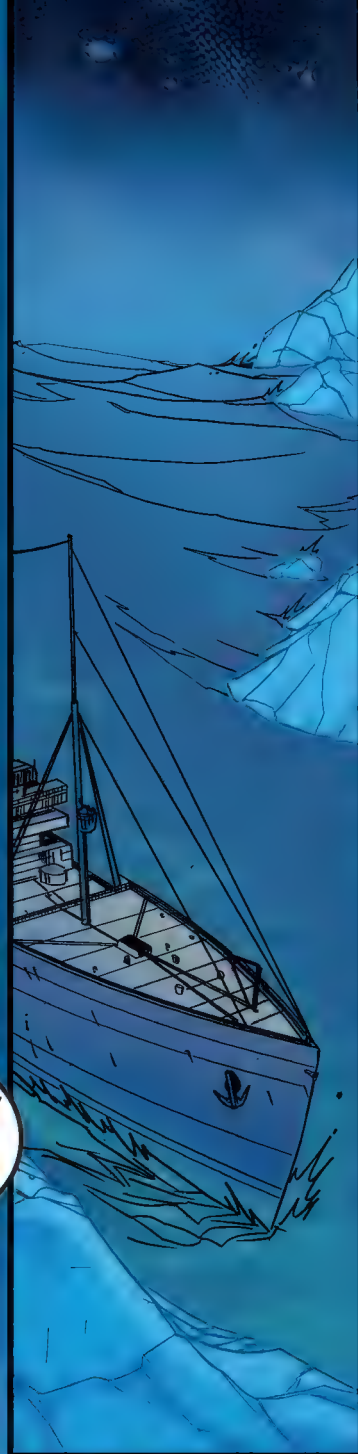
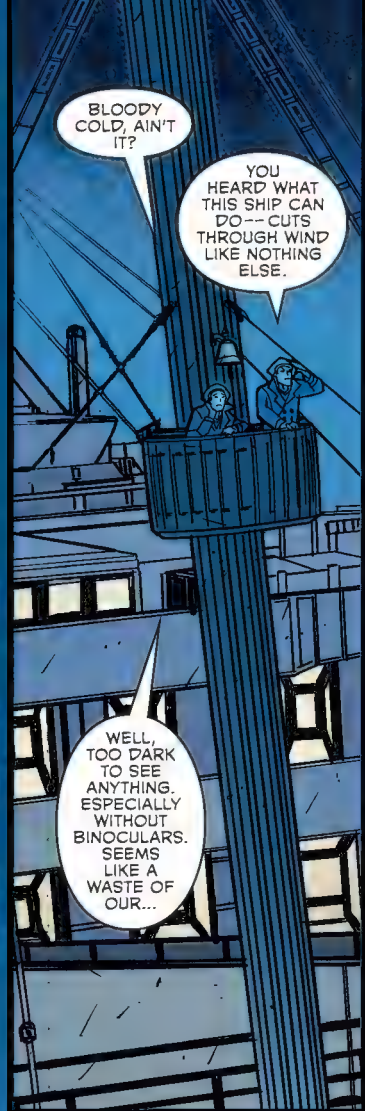
HEY,
MISTER!... YOU
EVER SEEN
BIGGER SWELLS
THAN THAT?

TOMMY!
MIND YOUR
MANNERS!


I'M SORRY,
SIR, HE GETS
EXCITED AT TIMES.
AND WE APOLOGIZE
FOR BEING ON THIS
DECK WHEN WE'RE
NOT SUPPOSED TO.
WON'T HAPPEN
AGAIN.

NO.
IT'S FINE.
EVERYTHING'S
FINE. WE WERE
ALL YOUNG
ONCE.

SOME-
THING'S
WRONG.



CLANG
CLANG
CLANG



YOU HEAR
THAT, HELLSPAWN?
DISASTER'S COMING
TO ALL THESE PEOPLE.
THE QUESTION IS:
FOR A FEW OF THEM...
ARE YOU WILLING
TO HELP CHANGE
THEIR FATE?

GABRIEL!
I KNEW HELL
NEEDED A
TRAITOR FOR
THIS LITTLE
TEST.


OF
COURSE
THEY
PICKED
YOU.

YOU'VE
ALWAYS BEEN QUICK
TO JUDGE, SIMMONS.
NOW IT'S TIME TO SEE
HOW GOOD THAT
SKILL IS.

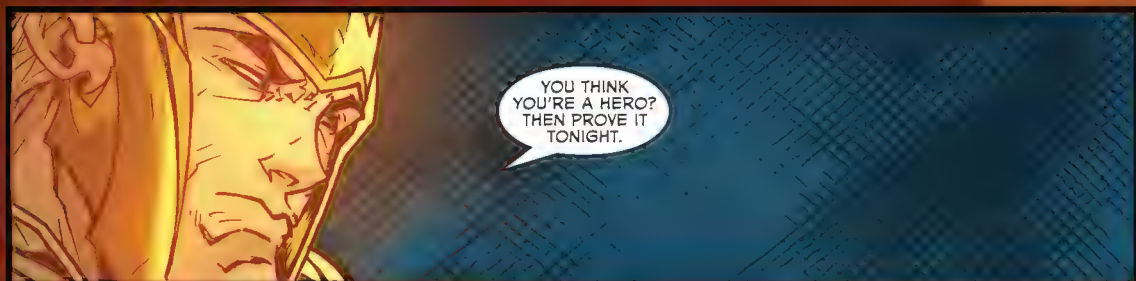
DO WHAT
YOU WANT.
I'M NOT
PLAYING.

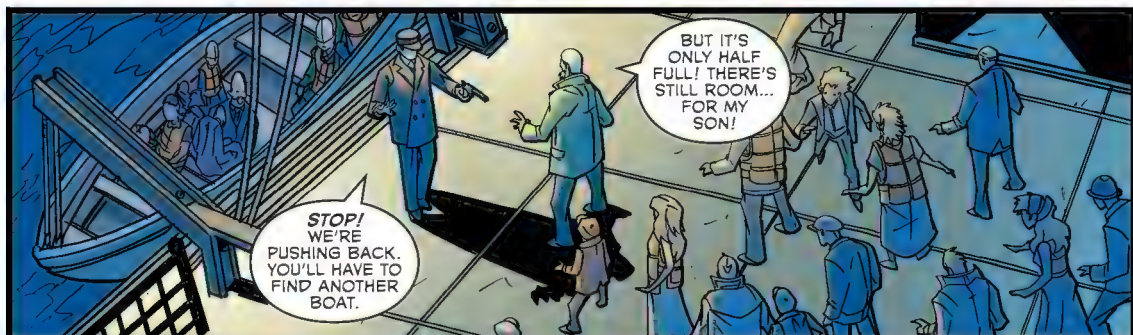
TOO LATE
FOR THAT.
YOU ALREADY
ARE.

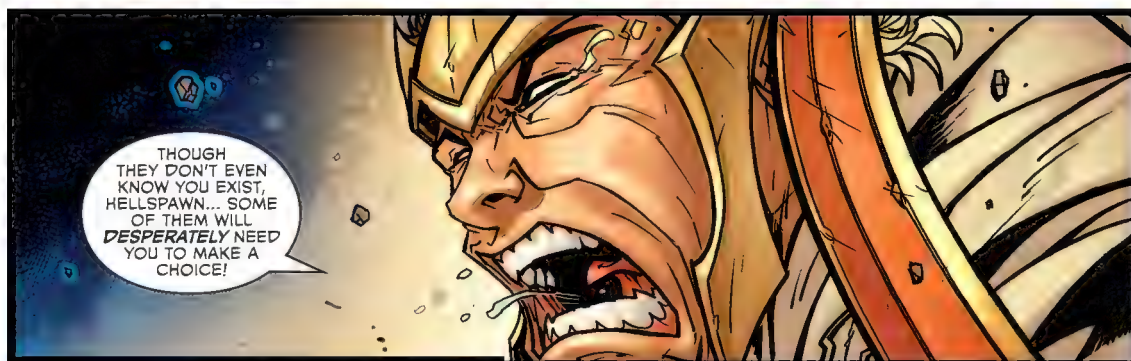
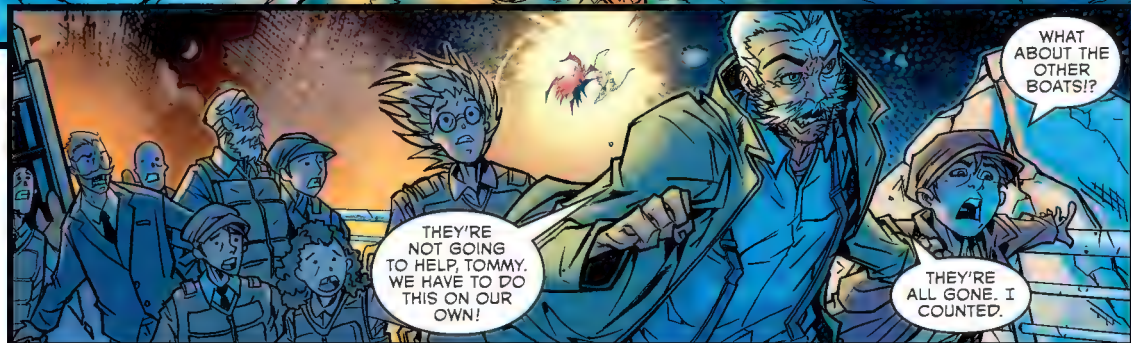
YOU'RE
HERE BECAUSE
YOU THINK YOU CAN
SAVE YOUR WIFE
WANDA. IT'S NOT THAT
SIMPLE. TO UNDO THE
PAST-- TO CHANGE
FATE-- COMES WITH A
PRICE. THE QUESTION
TONIGHT, IS WHAT
PRICE YOU'RE
WILLING TO
PAY.

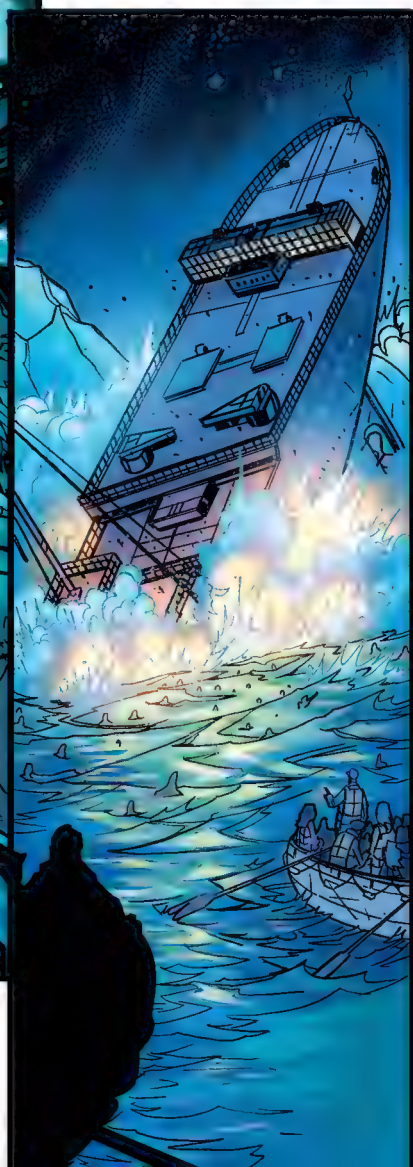
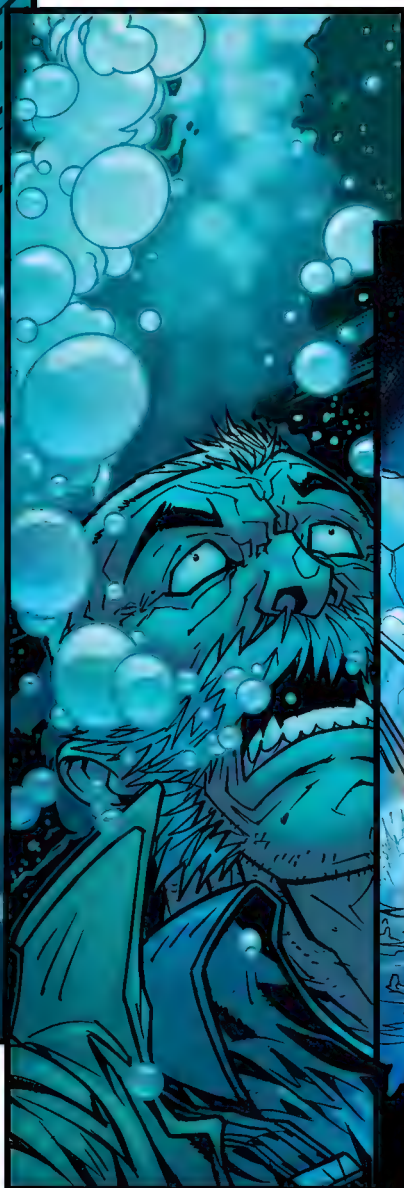
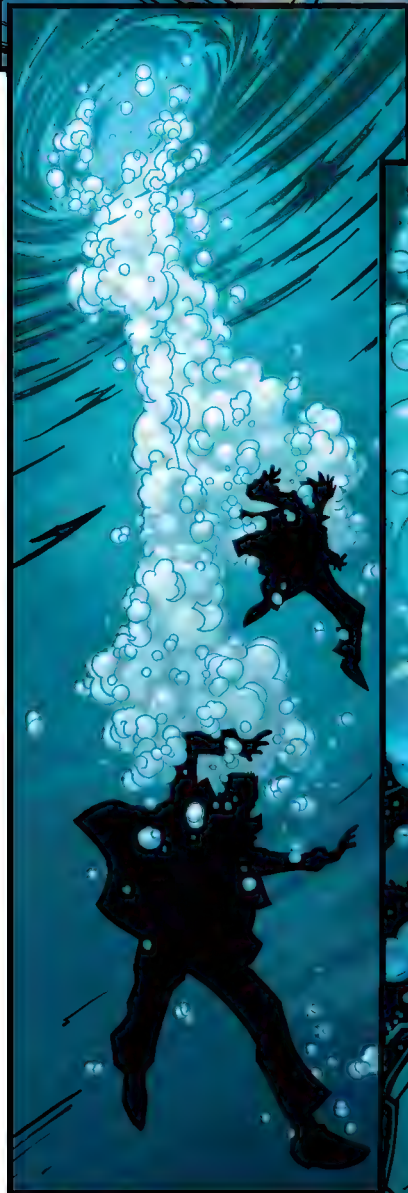


TO WHAT
DEPTH YOU'LL
GO TO SAVE
A SOUL?











THROUGH
YOUR GRACE,
YOU SHALL BE SAVED.
FOR I AM **YOUR**
SAVIOR!

SHE
DID IT!!
MOM!...
SHE SENT
HELP!

DAD!
LOOK!

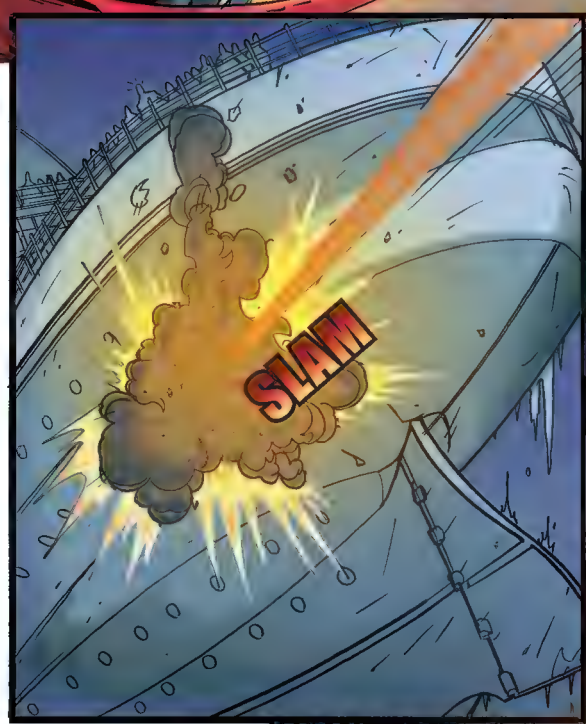
STOP
FEEDING
THEM YOUR LIES!
YOU'RE NOT
HERE TO HELP
THEM...

NO!



YOU'RE
HERE TO
TORTURE
THEM!

ARE YOU
INSANE!? THAT
WATER WILL FREEZE
THEM! THEY'LL DIE
UNLESS WE DO
SOMETHING!



YOU
LEAVE THEM
ALONE! YOU
DON'T GET TO
DECIDE THEIR
FATE!

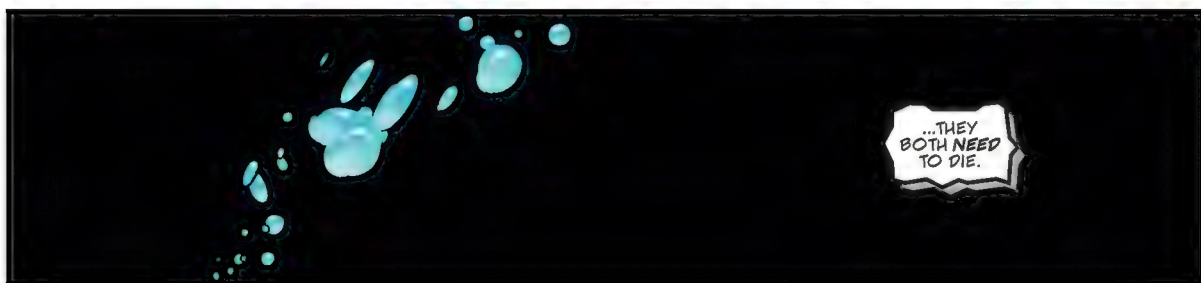
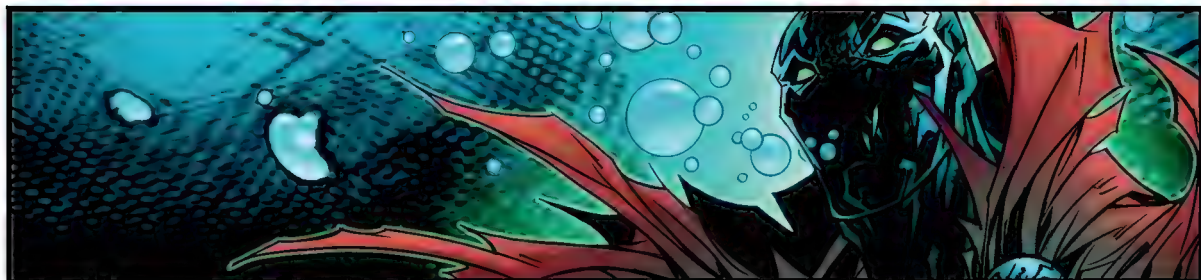
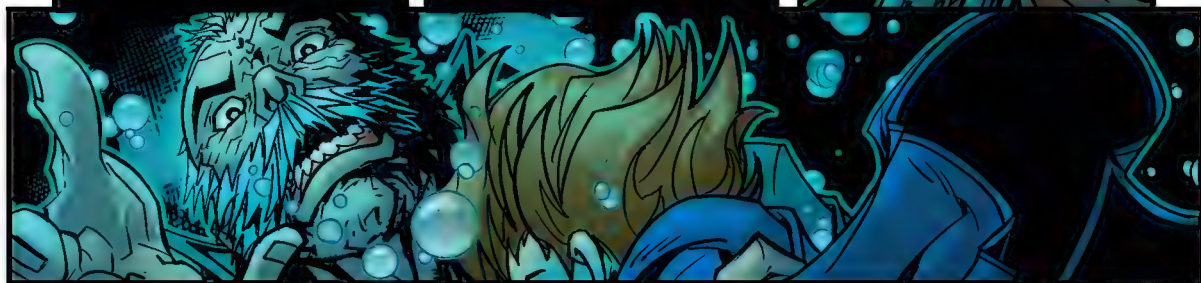
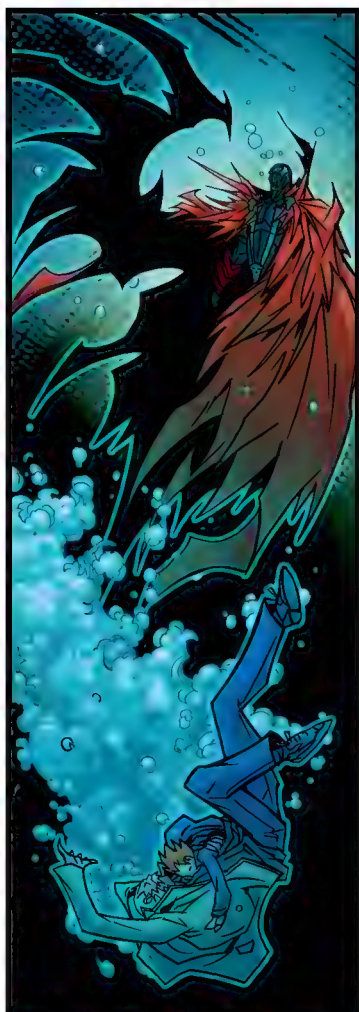


THEN
YOU DO
IT! SAVE
THEM!

WHO
CARES WHO
DOES IT?
THEY NEED
OUR HELP!
NOW!!



LIAR!



BECAUSE I WON'T
FALL FOR THIS
DEMENTED TRICK OF
YOURS. AND YOU
WERE WRONG--
I DO KNOW HOW
TIME WORKS.

I ALTER
SOMEONE'S
LIFE-- ANY-
ONE'S LIFE
FROM THE
PAST-- THEN
EVERYTHING,
FROM THAT
DAY FORWARD,
GETS ALTERED
TOO. LIKE A
GIANT RIPPLE
EFFECT.

THAT'S EXACTLY
WHAT SATAN WANTS...
FOR ME TO CHANGE
THE COURSE OF
HISTORY. BECAUSE
IF I DO, THERE'S A
CHANCE I WOULDN'T
HAVE MET WANDA.

AND IF I NEVER
KNEW HER...
WHY TRY AND
SAVE HER?

THAT'S YOUR CRUEL
TEST, ISN'T IT,
SATAN? YOU WANT
ME TO SEAL
WANDA'S FATE, NOT
YOU! WELL...

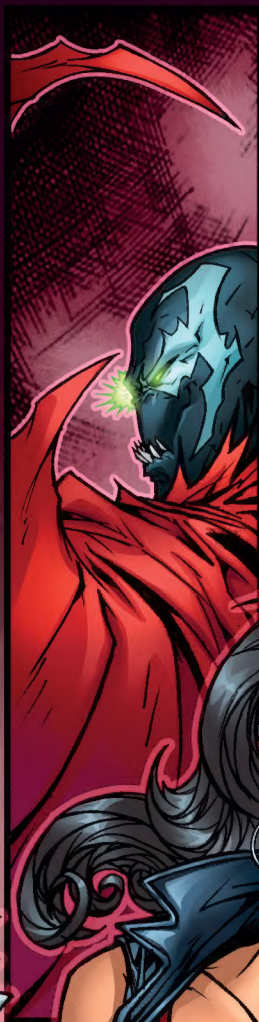
I WON'T GIVE
YOU THAT
SATISFACTION!

"YOU SURPRISE
ME, SIMMONS. I
THOUGHT YOU'D
TAKE THE BAIT."

"MY LORD SAID
YOU WOULDN'T.
HE SAID YOU MAY
HAVE GAINED MORE
KNOWLEDGE
DURING YOUR
RECENT ABSENCE."

"IF THAT'S TRUE..."

"YOU NOW
UNDER-
STAND..."



...THINGS
CAN BE ALTERED
IF ONE WANTS. AND
THOSE THAT WERE ONCE
ALIVE CAN DIE. AND
THOSE THAT WERE ONCE
DEAD COULD STILL
BE ALIVE!

LIKE YOUR
BELOVED
WANDA. AND
NOW...

NOW I'M
GOING TO MAKE
YOU AN OFFER YOU
CAN'T REFUSE.



Next:
ANOTHER
deal
with the
Devil?



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SPAWNING GROUND

Hello all,

July has been an exciting month for Todd and his company, McFarlane Toys!

For those of you who couldn't make San Diego Comic Con, I wanted to update everyone on all things McFarlane. We have so much cool stuff coming down the pipes that it is worth mentioning again!

First of all, we made a BIG announcement that McFarlane Toys will be creating HBO's *GAME OF THRONES* Construction Sets, which will be on store shelves this winter! We also have several new AMC's *The Walking Dead* Construction Sets coming out in August for those of you who are having 'Walker Withdrawal'. In addition to *Spawn*, those are a few other projects Todd has been working on...

As always, we have some exciting giveaways coming up. Todd has signed 1000 Dale's RV Construction Set canopies that will be randomly placed in boxes and distributed to retail stores across the country. Two signed canopies are signed and numbered with an original sketch by Todd.

We also are going to be running a "Win McFarlane Toys For a Year" contest on the McFarlane Toys Facebook Page! Can you imagine getting FREE (and signed!) toys for a year? More news on that will be announced on Todd's social channels in the coming months.

For this week's Spawning Ground, we went back to Facebook asking the question, "If you were face to face with Spawn, what is the FIRST thing you would say?"

Enjoy!
Shannon Bailey
Publishing Coordinator



AMC's *The Walking Dead* Dale's RV Construction Sets canopies signed by Todd McFarlane.

Q: If you were face to face with Spawn, what is the FIRST thing you would say?

Darkness cannot consume the light.
Lance B.

Whoa dude! Nice cape. Umm...where can I get one?
Kane W.

Why couldn't a new religion be named and created called Spawnism?
Ajai R.

You know Violator is actually Malebolgia's favorite...he didn't want to make you mad.
Alex G.

Spawn! Let's get revenge on my enemies! Beast Mode!
Michael T.

Keep up the good fight.
Em R.

Cool outfit.
Oscar S.

I hate being two dimensional, don't you?
Ryon C.

I think this might be your turf.
I'll get my coat.
Barry P.

Can I be your apprentice?
Luis R.

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Truth be told, I would be fangirling so
hard I wouldn't even know what to say!
Bryce K.

How about a cold one?
Constance C.

Paper, Rock, Scissors...GO!
Hoffa H.

Are you our last hope?
Andrew C.

If you could go back in time, would you
still make the same deal or just die?
Jarek B.

Four words. Was it worth it?
James S.

Please Spawn, can you show me Hell?
Israel H.

You look smaller in person.
Charles J.

Good to have you back, Al.
Will R.

Teach me your dark ways Master. I will
be your eyes and ears.
Don B.

If you ever met your creator, what
would you say to Todd?
Chris L.

Sorry about your family. Need a hand
kicking butt? I have a special set of
skills you can use.
John D.

Been doing this since 92' huh?
Chris S.



NEXT ISSUE

Al begins to prepare for an epic fight.